

Proposition 61 is a deeply flawed and costly scheme that is not what it seems.

Prop 61 was written and is being promoted by Michael Weinstein, the controversial president of an organization that brought in more than \$1 billion selling prescription drugs and HMO policies. Suspiciously, he exempted his own HMO from having to comply with the measure he wrote and is promoting.

- The *Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of California* warns Prop 61 would harm veterans.
- The *California Medical Association*, representing 41,000 doctors, warns Prop 61 would reduce patient access to medicines.
- The *California Taxpayers Association* warns Prop 61 would impose new bureaucracy, red tape and lawsuits - costing taxpayers millions.

PROP 61 DOES NOT APPLY TO 88% OF CALIFORNIANS. BUT IT NEGATIVELY IMPACTS ALL CALIFORNIANS

The proposition only covers an arbitrary group of patients in certain state government programs, including some government employees and state prisoners. More than 88% of Californians are excluded. More than 10 million Medi-Cal low-income patients, 20 million Californians with private health insurance and Medicare, and millions of others – *ALL EXCLUDED*.

PROP 61 COULD INCREASE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS FOR VETERANS

The US Department of Veterans Affairs receives special discounts on prescription drugs for veterans. This measure could result in eliminating these discounts and increasing prescription drug prices for veterans. That's why the measure is opposed by more than a dozen veteran groups, including:

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- *Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of California*
- *Vietnam Veterans of America, California State Council*
- *American Legion, Department of California*
- *AMVETS, Department of California*

#### DOCTORS AND PATIENT ADVOCATES SAY PROP 61 WOULD DISRUPT ACCESS TO NEEDED MEDICINES

Prop 61 would result in a new bureaucratic prior approval process that would interfere with patient access to needed medicines.

Leading health groups oppose Prop 61, including:

- *California Medical Association*
- *American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) - District IX/CA*
- *Ovarian Cancer Coalition of Greater California*

#### PROP 61 WOULD LIKELY INCREASE STATE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Prop 61 would result in the elimination of drug discounts the state currently receives - increasing state prescription costs by tens of millions annually. The state's nonpartisan Legislative Analyst says the measure could raise state spending on many prescription drugs.

#### INCREASED BUREACRACY, RED TAPE AND HIGHER TAXPAYER COSTS

The California Taxpayers Association opposes Prop 61. The measure is completely vague on how it would be implemented. Passage of this measure would result in more government bureaucracy, red tape and lawsuits as state agencies struggle to implement it - costing taxpayers millions.

#### PROMOTER WROTE IN SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR HIS OWN ORGANIZATION

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The proponent exempted his billion dollar operation and wrote in provisions giving him a special right to engage in lawsuits regarding this measure. This provision requires California taxpayers to pay his lawyers - a virtual blank check.

Proposition 61 is yet another example of a misleading and costly ballot measure. It would hurt veterans; jeopardize patient access to needed medicines; increase state prescription costs; and add more bureaucracy, red tape and lawsuits - costing taxpayers millions.

JOIN VETERANS, DOCTORS, PATIENT ADVOCATES, TAXPAYER GROUPS: NO on 61.

[www.NoProp61.com](http://www.NoProp61.com)

**DALE SMITH**, Commander

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of California

**RANDY MUNOZ**, Vice Chair

Latino Diabetes Association

**GAIL NICKERSON**, President

California Association of Rural Health Clinics

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